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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 SP-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-07

SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

DRC-01 L-03 H-03 /168 W

----- 027798

R 231417Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8161

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN UR

SUBJ: 1974 FIRST QUARTER PLAN RESULTS FOR INDUSTRY

REF: MOSCOW 15667, DTD 12/14/73

1. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION PLAN RESULTS FOR FIRST QUARTER OF 1974 ANNOUNCED IN CENTRAL PRESS APRIL 20. ACCORDING TO CENTRAL STATISTICAL ADMINISTRATION (CSA) PLAN FOR FIRST QUARTER WAS OVERFULFILLED BOTH BY OVERALL VOLUME OF PRODUCTS RELEASED INTO ECONOMY (REALIZATSIYA) AND BY VOLUME OF PRODUCTION OF MOST IMPORTANT MANUFACTURES. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION GAINED BY 8.3 PERCENT OVER COMPARABLE 1973 PERIOD,
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WHILE RISE IN LABOR PRODUCTIVITY (6.7 PERCENT) FOR PERIOD

RESULTED IN FIRST QUARTER PLAN OVERFULFILLMENT. ACCORDING TO CSA, QUARTERLY PLAN WAS OVERFULFILLED BY ALL UNION-REPUBLIC AND ALL-UNION INDUSTRIAL MINISTRIES AND BY ALL UNION REPUBLICS. TECHNICAL ADVANCES AND INTENSIFICATION OF PRODUCTION IN INDUSTRY RESULTED IN IMPROVEMENT IN "TECHNICAL-ECONOMIC" INDICES OF ENTERPRISE ACTIVITY; USE OF FUEL AT POWER-GENERATION STATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, WAS REDUCED BY 1.5 PERCENT DURING PERIOD.

2. FOLLOWING SELECTED FIRST QUARTER PRODUCTION STATISTICS, WITH PERCENTAGE INCREASE COMPARED TO SIMILAR 1973 PERIOD, ARE TRANSMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREEMENT WITH OFFICE OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH:

ELECTRICAL ENERGY: 258 BILLION KWT HOURS; 108
OIL (INCLUDING GAS CONDENSATE): 110 MILLION TONS; 108
GAS: 64.1 BILLION CUBIC METERS; 107
COAL: 173 MILLION TONS; 101
(OF WHICH COKING/COAL: 44.3; 99.2)
PIG IRON: 24.6 MILLION TONS; 105
STEEL: 33.5 MILLION TONS; 104
ROLLED METAL: 27.0 MILLION TONS; 105
(OF WHICH FINISHED METAL: 23.6 MILLION TONS; 104)
MINERAL FERTILIZERS (IN CONVENTIONAL UNITS) :191.
MILLION TONS; 109
PLASTICS AND SYNTHETIC RESINS: 614 THOUSAND TONS; 108
CHEMICAL FIBERS: 222 THOUSAND TONS; 109
METAL-CUTTING MACHINE TOOLS: 53.5 THOUSAND UNITS; 103
(330 MILLION RUBLES; 110)
FORGE-PRESS MACHINES: 11.8 THOUSAND UNITS; 102
(88.4 MILLION RUBLES; 109)
INSTRUMENTS, MEANS OF AUTOMATION AND RELATED SPARE PARTS; 903 MILLION RUBLES; 113
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AND RELATED SPARE PARTS: 432 MILLION RUBLES; 124
LIFT APPARATUS: 43.2 THOUSAND TONS; 113
CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT AND SPARE PARTS: 149 MILLION RUBLES; 114
MAINLINE RAIL FREIGHT CARS: 18.0 THOUSAND UNITS; 101
AUTOMOBILES--TOTAL: 444.4 THOUSAND UNITS; 116
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TRUCKS: 163.8 THOUSAND UNITS; 107
PASSENGER CARS: 265.9 THOUSAND UNITS; 124
BUSES: 14.7 THOUSAND UNITS; 102
TRACTORS: 132 THOUSAND UNITS; 105
AGRICULTURAL MACHINES: 826 MILLION RUBLES; 117
GRAIN-HARVESTING COMBINES: 20.6 THOUSAND UNITS; 80
PAPER: 1.3 MILLION TONS; 104
CEMENT: 276 MILLION TONS; 105

COTTON TEXTILES: 2,465 MILLION SQUARE METERS; 102
LEATHER FOOTWEAR: 172 MILLION PAIRS; 100.4
MEAT (FROM STATE RESOURCES): 2.0 MILLION TONS; 107
BUTTER (FROM STATE RESOURCES): 207 THOUSAND TONS; 112
CANNED FOODS: 2.3 BILLION CANS; 113
TELEVISION SETS: 1.6 MILLION UNITS; 100.7
REFRIGERATORS; 1.3 MILLION UNITS; 99.6
WASHING MACHINES; 734 THOUSAND UNITS; 98
FURNITURE; 955 MILLION RUBLES; 109

3. COMMENT. FIRST QUARTER STATISTICS INDICATE STRONG BEGINNING TO YEAR'S INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY IN USSR, WITH PARTICULARLY IMPRESSIVE RESULTS CHALKED UP IN CONSUMER SECTORS (ESPECIALLY FOOD INDUSTRY). FIRST QUARTER RESULTS IN MANY SECTORS, IF CONTINUED FOR ENTIRE YEAR, WOULD VIRTUALLY MEASURE UP TO PLANNED INCREASES FOR 1974 WITHIN FRAMEWORK TARGETS OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN AND EASILY SURPASS REDUCED 1974 ANNOUNCED LAST DECEMBER (SEE REFTEL. GLARING EXCEPTIONS TO PATTERN ARE RELATIVELY LOW PRODUCTION INCREASES IN NATURAL GAS AND FERTILIZER PRODUCTION, WHERE GREATLY ACCELERATED PRODUCTION WILL BE REQUIRED TO FULFILL EVEN REDUCED 1974 TARGETS. FOLLOWING SELECTED STATISTICS REFLECT THIS SITUATION;

A) SECTOR

B) FIRST QUARTER 1974 PRODUCTION INCREASE OVER COMPARABLE 1973 PERIOD

C) 1974 FULL-YEAR GROWTH TARGETS AS ANNOUNCED IN DECEMBER 1973

D) 1974 FULL-YEAR GROWTH TARGETS WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN

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(A) (B) (C) (D)

TOTAL INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION 8.3 PERCENT 6.8 PERCENT 8.6 PERCENT

ELECTRICAL ENERGY 8 PERCENT 6.6 PERCENT 8.1 PERCENT

OIL 8 PERCENT 7 PERCENT 7.5 PERCENT
(INCLUDES GAS CONDENSATE)

GAS 7 PERCENT 8.8 PERCENT 12.0 PERCENT
FERTILIZERS 9 PERCENT 11.2 PERCENT 12.8 PERCENT
MACHINE-BUILDING AND METAL WORKING 12 PERCENT 10.4 PERCENT 11.8 PERCENT

INDUSTRY 10 PERCENT 7.6 PERCENT 6.5 PERCENT
(AS WHOLE)

LIGHT INDISTRY 4. PERCENT 4 PERCENT 7.4 PERCENT

MEAT 7 PERCENT 7.6 PERCENT 7.8 PERCENT
MILK AND MILK 12 PERCENT 7.0 PERCENT 6.9 PERCENT
PRODUCTS

FISH 9 PERCENT 6.8 PERCENT 8.9 PERCENT
HOUSEHOLD GOODS 9 PERCENT 10 PERCENT 13.1 PERCENT

4. ADDITIONALLY, LABOR PRODUCTIVITY SHOT UP BY 6.7 PERCENT,
LOWER THAN 7.2 PERCENT PLANNED FOR 1974 WITHIN FIVE-YEAR PLAN
FRAMEWORK BUT PRESUMABLY HIGHER THAN (AS YET UNKNOWN) REVISED
TARGET FOR 1974 SET LATE LAST YEAR. IN ANY CASE, FIGURE FOR
FIRST QUARTER IS WELL ABOVE THE 6.0 PERCENT INCREASE REGISTERED
FOR ALL OF 1973.

5. NOTABLE PRODUCTION INCREASES IN CONSUMER SECTORS WOULD
APPEAR TO INDICATE GENUINE CONCERN ON PART OF SOVIET AUTHORITIES
TO NEEDS OF ORDINARY CITIZENS AFTER YEARS OF LIP SERVICE
IN THAT DIRECTION. LEST WESTERN ANALYSTS BECOME
OVERCOME BY VISIONS OF SOVIET MAGNANIMITY TOWARD LONG-SUFFERING
CONSUMER, HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT NINTH-FIVE-
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YEAR PLAN DOES NOT STAND CHANCE OF FULFILLMENT IN CONSUMER
AREAS (NOR IN PRODUCER SECTORS FOR THAT MATTER) DESPITE
APPARENT CURRENT SURGE OF PRODUCTION IN LIGHT, FOOD, AND
HOUSEHOLD GOODS INDUSTRIES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, WAGES, BUDGET ESTIMATES, ECONOMIC DATA, INVESTMENT DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW06027
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740095-0985
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740422/aaaaasuk.tel
Line Count: 206
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOSCOW 15667, DTD 12/14/73
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 APR 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <12 JUN 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 1974 FIRST QUARTER PLAN RESULTS FOR INDUSTRY
TAGS: EGEN, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005